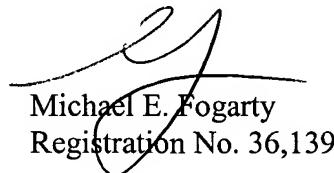


**REMARKS**

The above-referenced application has been amended to delete the multiple dependency of claim 8 to avoid the multiple dependent claim filing fee and to add new claim 17. Entry of this preliminary amendment is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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